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INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 HELSINKI 000012

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE  
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OES FOR WIREC ACTION GROUP LEADER STAN SPECHT AND OES  
SPECIAL ASSISTANT CAMILLE HILL

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [ENRG](#) [SENV](#) [TRGY](#) [EPET](#) [EAID](#) [SOCI](#) [KSQA](#) [KGHG](#) [KPAO](#)

OPDC, FI

SUBJECT: FINLAND TO SEND A STRONG DELEGATION TO WIREC

REF: SECSTATE 00559

¶1. (SBU) Econoff delivered the formal invitation for the Washington International Conference on Renewal Energy (WIREC) to Mr. Henri Backman, Senior Advisor to the Minister in Finland's newly-created super Ministry of Employment and the Economy. A strong advocate of renewable energy sources, Minister of the Economy Mauri Pekkarinen plans to attend WIREC with a delegation of senior officials who cover energy issues for the Government of Finland. According to Backman, Minister Pekkarinen would welcome an opportunity to speak on either R&D or Agriculture/Rural Development topics during the conference.

¶2. (U) Finland already generates approximately 25 percent of its energy from renewable resources (85 percent from bioenergy ) mostly wood) and this figure is expected to rise to 35 percent during the next decade. The GOF is also aggressively funding biofuel R&D projects that will hopefully help Finland decrease its greenhouse gas emissions while further diversifying its overall energy mix.

¶3. (SBU) Anticipated GOF delegates to WIREC:

Mr. Mauri Pekkarinen, Minister of the Economy

Mr. Mikko Alkio, State Secretary, Ministry of Employment and the Economy

Mr. Taisto Turunen, Director General, Energy Department, Ministry of Employment and the Economy

Ms. Sirkka Vilkamo, Deputy Director General, Head of Renewables and Energy Efficiency Division, Ministry of Employment and the Economy

Mr. Henri Backman, Senior Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Employment and the Economy

¶4. (SBU) The Department might also consider sending WIREC invitations to the following private sector officials representing leading renewable energy companies in Finland:

Ms. Arja Koski  
Fortum Corporation  
P.O. Box 1  
FI-00048 FORTUM  
Finland

Mr. Juha Poikola  
Pohjolan Voima Oy  
Toolonkatu 4, P.O. Box 40  
FI-00101 Helsinki  
Finland

Mr. Matti Hilli  
Vapo Oy  
P.O. Box 22  
FI-40101 Jyvaskyla  
Finland

Mr. Jukka Leskela and Mr. Jari Kostama  
Energiateollisuus ry  
Finnish Energy Industries  
P.O. Box 100  
FI-00101 Helsinki  
Finland

Mr. Stefan Sundman  
Metsateollisuus ry  
Finnish Forest Industries Federation  
P.O. Box 336  
FI-00171 Helsinki  
Finland

Ms. Tellervo Kyla-Harakka-Ruonala  
Elinkeinoelämän Keskusliitto ry  
Confederation of Finnish Industries, EK  
P.O. Box 30  
FI-00131 Helsinki  
Finland

Mr. Pekka-Juhani Kuitto  
Suomen Bioenergiayhdistys ry  
Bioenergy Association of Finland, FINBIO  
Vapaudenkatu 12  
FI-40100 Jyvaskyla  
Finland

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Mr. Jaakko Silpola  
Turveteollisuusliitto ry  
Association of Finnish Peat Industries  
Vapaudenkatu 12  
FI-40100 Jyvaskyla  
Finland  
HYATT